

Supervisor Molina Opens “Centro Estrella”



Supervisor Molina stands before the facility’s swimming pool used for aquatics therapy sessions. Joining her are ALMA Family Services CEO Jean Champommier and Dr. Marie Torres of AltaMed.



Youth from Centro Estrella perform for visitors at the facility’s grand opening.

parent support and training programs, mental health services, an after-school enrichment program, a Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP)-affiliated preschool, and swimming pool for aquatics adaptive courses for youth with physical challenges.

The facility will serve 500 mental health clients, 250 aquatics adaptive course clients, 38 after-school enrichment program clients, 35 preschool clients; and a parent support group. The Department of Mental Health (DMH) offers

On June 28, Supervisor Gloria Molina officiated the grand opening of “Centro Estrella,” a long-awaited facility for children with disabilities who live in the greater East Los Angeles area, where the facility is direly needed. In fact, Supervisor Molina envisioned Centro Estrella after hearing directly from East L.A. parents of children living with disabilities about the unavailability of locally accessible facilities that met their unique needs.

“Centro Estrella was born from one single mission: To create a place where children with disabilities and their families could reach for the stars,” Supervisor Molina said. “I am proud that today we have achieved our goal.”

Designers built the facility explicitly so staff could provide learning opportunities and physical rehabilitation services to youth up to 22 years of age. Centro Estrella features a resource library,

counseling services on the building’s second floor. Staff from ALMA Family Services provides direct services on the first floor for the children with special needs.

After a separate organization failed to secure proper funding to begin construction of the building, Supervisor Molina stepped in and provided \$7 million in vital Community Development Block Grant and tax increment monies. DMH supplied the final \$1.9 million for the project.

In addition to Supervisor Molina and DMH, other partners in the Centro Estrella project include the Community Development Commission, the California Endowment, the Amateur Athletic Foundation, the Eastern and South Central Regional Centers, LAUP, and the ALMA Family Services Board of Directors.

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EVENT CALENDAR

County of Los Angeles Wellness Fair

Wednesday, August 31, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Department of Community & Senior Services

3175 West 6th Street

Los Angeles, CA 90020

Los Angeles County Secretarial Council

Annual Boss-Secretary Luncheon

Thursday, October 13

Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park

For reservations or more information, please call

(213) 639-5510 or (626) 300-4606

Ford Amphitheatre

2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood 90068

(323) GO-1 FORD (323)461-4673

www.fordamphitheatre.org

BWF = Big World Fun LPS = Latino Play Reading Series

SEPTEMBER

3 - BWF - Lula Washington Dance Theatre (10 a.m.)

3 - Lula Washington Dance Theatre - 25th Anniversary Summer Celebration (8 p.m.)

4 - Celtic Festival - Music under the Moon - A Night of Celtic Music

10 - BWF - Kim, Eung-Hwa Korean Dance (10 a.m.)

10 - Pacifico Dance Company - Many Faces One Heart (8:30 p.m.)

11 - Clayton Hamilton Jazz Orchestra

17 - BWF - Conjunto Jardin (10 a.m.)

17 - Fiesta Mexicana - Soes Bailes Y Cantares (7 p.m.)

18 - Jazz Bakery - Samba & Soul (8 p.m.)

Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden

301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia 91007

For a list of seminars, workshops and classes,

please visit www.arboretum.org or call (626) 821-4623

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036

(323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

Through September 18 - Jacob van Ruisdael: Master of Landscape

Through November 15 - Tutankhamun & Golden Age of Pharaohs (King Tut Exhibit)

Through January 15 - The Pharaoh's World (Boone Children's Gallery, LACMA West)

Music Center

135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012

(213) 972-7211

www.musiccenter.org

Ahmanson Theatre

Through October 16 – Dead End

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Sept 10-Oct 1 – Offenbach's *The Grand Duchess*

Sept 11-Oct 1 – Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*

Mark Taper Forum

Through September 18 – August Wilson's "Radio Golf"

Hollywood Bowl

2301 North Highland Ave., Hollywood 90078

(323) 850-2000

www.hollywoodbowl.com

SEPTEMBER

1 - L.A. Phil: FIESTA DE MUSICA

2-3 - L.A. Phil: John Williams: Movie Music

4 - LA Phil Presents: Brian Wilson with Polyphonic Spree

5 - LA Phil Presents: Rocky Horror Picture Show/Special Performance by Louis XIV

6 - L.A. Phil: Beethoven Triple

8 - L.A. Phil: Mussorgsky

9-10 - L.A. Phil: Pink Martini/ B. Gilberto

11 - L.A. Phil Presents" Keali'i Reichel/Na Leo

12 – Oasis

13 - L.A. Phil: Tchaikovsky Fifth

15 - L.A. Phil: Saint-Saens & Fireworks

16-18 - L.A. Phil Presents: Fireworks finale the Russians Are Coming!

23 – L.A. Phil Presents: AFI's 100 Years of Film of Film Scores

24 - L.A. Phil: Luciano Pavarotti

25 - L.A. Phil Presents: Dead Can Dance

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles

(213) 763-3466

www.nhm.org

Through January 2006 – Collapse?



Articles and other submissions to the *County DIGEST* may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

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WeTip WELFARE FRAUD

1-800-87-FRAUD

Poem by Foster Child

This poem was written by a 16 year old female who has been in foster placement for 14 years. She, like other foster children, has a strong desire of returning home and being with family. She understands why she is in the system and why this is not possible at this time. She has three other siblings who are also in the system but is separated from them. With all the pain, isolation and life's disappointments this young lady still has hopes and dreams of being successful, independent and helping others. The following poem is an expression of her desire to belong, to feel loved and to return to her family, which is the ultimate goal for all foster children.

Where Have I Come from?

Where have I come from? I come from a mother who really loved me but she had to give me up. I come from a nice foster mom who loved me as if I was her own. But I admit that I mistreated her. She didn't have to let me go but I was out of control. I come from a foster home that I been living in for 14 years. I come from a nice little city in Los Angeles. I come from a family that really did love me. I come from a school full of kids who really loved me. I come from a foster mom who loved kids so much that she took me and my three siblings into her home. I come from a loving family and a loving foster family. That's where I come from.

Where am I going?

Where am I going? Where I'm going is to a much better place. Where I'm going is to a much better school. Where I'm going is to a family that truly loves me. Where I'm going is to the biggest college in the United States of America. Where I'm going is around the world to scrutinize King Tut's body. Where I'm going is to South America to help the homeless. Where I'm going is to Johnny Cochran's law office and submit an application to work with him. Where I'm going is to Ontario, California to meet my biological father. Where I'm going is to sit down and have a conversation with President Bush. But where I really want to go is home.

Anonymous

Supervisor Antonovich Hosts Santa Clarita Valley Youth in Government Group

On June 28, Supervisor Antonovich welcomed a group of students from the Santa Clarita Valley Youth in Government group to his downtown Los Angeles office. Sponsored by the City of Santa Clarita, the annual program exposes teens to the workings of local government, allowing them to get first-hand civics lessons from local officials.



"With my own interest in politics beginning in the eighth grade, I know the importance of early experience in shaping one's future interests and endeavors," Supervisor Antonovich said. "Providing these programs for our youth affords them the opportunity to observe the workings of government and learn more about the political process."



RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

ASSESSOR: Mary H. Mullaney

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Mary L. Williams

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Reynalda Flores, Raquel Gonzales

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: F.L. Bryant, Luz V. Dagdag, Pamela V. Smith

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Jeanette Huffman, Philip H. Wynn

FIRE: Harrol J. Fullbright

HEALTH SERVICES: Lois L. Book, Rose M. Harris, La Verne Hawthorne, Armando Hernandez, Youlanda A. Mitchell, Sal E. Morales, Willia D. Pineset-Wils, Elizabeth J. Sweeney, Jesse Torres

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Cathy L. Robinson

INTERNAL SERVICES: Richard L. Hornbeak, Lauren V. Macnider, Terence E. O Dowd, Leona L. Villearreal

LACERA: Diana G. Trujillo

PROBATION: Leroy O. Bosanko Jr., Michael C. Larquier, Paul S. Lopez, Gwendolyn J. Martin

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: James Adams, Susie J. Betton, Bennie J. Boone, Marie E. Gonzales, Flora E. Sellers

PUBLIC WORKS: Maria J. Villamater

SHERIFF: Richard A. Longshore, Christine Martin, Michael A. Salvatore, Barney Villa, Patricia A. Young

SUPERIOR COURT: Thelma R. Green, Brenda E. Jones, Ronald J. Williams,

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

HEALTH SERVICES: Gerald M. Armijo, Maria M. Brenes, Srisamorn Donchuanom Sr., Darlene A. Gidley, Marguere Moore

INTERNAL SERVICES: Reuben O. Primavera, Willie O. Sabree

MENTAL HEALTH: Shirley Richardson

PROBATION: Emerencian Velarde

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Hong Le

PUBLIC WORKS: Bennie Nelson, Filipe Rosado

SHERIFF: Lenetta Edwards, Glennie Johnstone, Eugene P. Salazar

SUPERIOR COURT: Beverly D. Borland, Deborah Couwenberg, Ward P. Dye

Employee of the Month: Alternate Public Defender's Bertha Garcia

Bertha Garcia has been employed with the County of Los Angeles for 21 years, and is currently serving as an Information Systems Analyst II with the Office of the Alternate Public Defender (APD) where she has worked since



1994. Ms. Garcia

began her County career as a Stenographer and later became a Secretary. During her years with the APD, she demonstrated an interest in, and aptitude for, working with computers and data systems. Currently, she is the lead network administrator for the APD and is responsible for a wide area network system that serves over 250 employees spread out over 28 locations.

When Ms. Garcia was assigned to the APD Data Systems Unit, she was responsible for creating, organizing, and coordinating all Help Desk functions along with all desktop management, maintenance and upgrades. During her first two years in this position, she also assisted in the design and supervised system testing for the APD's in-house Case Management System database.

In 2001, Garcia was promoted to assisting in the area of network management and administration. During this period, she not only trained her replacement, but assumed the challenge of learning to manage a complicated wide area network. She developed the requisite skills so that today she oversees a network that includes two separate database systems, an e-mail system, and 18 separate servers spread throughout the County. In 2004, a supervisory vacancy occurred which left the APD without a lead network administrator. Ms. Garcia stepped in to fill the void and assumed the additional responsibilities, resulting in savings to the Department of approximately \$100,000.

Ms. Garcia continues to coordinate all data systems work, and is highly regarded by staff for her "can do" attitude and ability to handle an ever increasing and complicated workload that has saved the Department an additional \$375,000 in salaries and benefits. She says that the one aspect of her job that she finds to be the most fulfilling is problem solving. "It is very satisfying to help people that are

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Supervisor Burke Hosts 5th Annual Ministers' Breakfast

More than 250 people attended Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke's 5th annual "Partnering in Vision to Strengthen Our Community" ministers' breakfast. Held at the Radisson Hotel Midtown right across the street from the University of Southern California campus, ministers attended the breakfast representing religions from Catholicism and Christianity to Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam.

The program started with an invocation from the Honorable Carl Washington, a minister, a Board Member of Integrated Waste Management, a former California Assemblyman, as well as a former deputy of Supervisor Burke. Herb Wesson, a former Speaker of the California Assembly and former Chief of Staff to Supervisor Burke, was the Master of Ceremonies. As the guests enjoyed a full American breakfast, the program continued with musical performances of "Impossible Dream" and "Wind Beneath My Wings" by Charles Turner III.



Supervisor Burke (standing center) met with some of the more than 200 guests who attended the ministers' breakfast.



Supervisor Burke (at podium) told guests that Proposition 63, passed by California voters last year, will bring \$200 million a year for mental health and other services.

Supervisor Burke addressed the ministers, focusing on issues of interest to them. She noted that every week she writes an update on the turnaround of King/Drew Medical Center for a local weekly newspaper, the *Los Angeles Sentinel*. She told those gathered that the Compton Project, a new paradigm in children's services, meant to avoid family problems before they result in serious harm to children, is becoming a national model of success. She observed that the building project at 83rd Street and Vermont Avenue, which will house the Departments of Public Social Services, Children and Family Services, Child Support Services and Mental Health is at a site that has been virtually empty since the 1992 civil unrest. She stated that the presence of nearly 1,000 paid County employees in the neighborhood will serve as a catalyst for bringing in commercial and retail development.

After the breakfast, the ministers broke off into four workshop sessions on Fraud and Homeless Services, the State of Los Angeles County's Healthcare, Community and Senior Services, and Community Economic Development. Supervisor Burke said, "This breakfast is especially important, because the churches in the Second District are often right on the front lines of community activism. It's vital to enroll their support in County programs."

County department heads attending the breakfast included Rick Auerbach, County Assessor; Dr. Thomas Garthwaite, Health Services; Bryce Yokomizo, Public Social Services; David Sanders, Children and Family Services; Philip Browning, Child Support Services; Michael J. Henry, Human Resources; Pastor Herrera, Consumer Affairs; and Cynthia Banks, Interim Director, Community and Senior Services. Also attending were Hank Wells of Navigant Consulting, Interim CEO of King Hospital; Dr. Roger Peeks, Medical Director at King Hospital; and Janine Perron, Director of Grant Programs for the County Arts Commission.

ENRICHING LIVES...

C-BEEP: A Partnership Based on Community Service

The Community-Based Enterprise Education Program (C-BEEP) is managed by the Department of Human Resources. A Countywide internship program, C-BEEP began as a pilot project between the County of Los Angeles and California State University, Northridge. C-BEEP's purpose is threefold:

- To offer students a meaningful work experience while gaining an understanding of the role of government in community life;
- To strengthen the already existing partnership between these two public entities; and
- To develop an awareness of community service.

The C-BEEP program was unanimously adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1996, under a resolution brought in by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky. "This is a win-win situation for the students, for the university and for the County taxpayers. These students are gaining real-world experience in public service and earning credit towards graduation, while County government benefits from a bright, motivated and select pool of youthful talent" Supervisor Yaroslavsky said.

Initially, the program began with 24 students. Currently, there are 171 students participating in the program, 126 students have completed the program, and 26 students are pending placement. They are working as interns in various County departments such as the Board of Supervisors, Coroner, Fire and Public Library.

One of the coordinators participating in the program is Kaye Michelson, director, administrative services, with the Department of Animal Care and Control.

"I am so pleased to have the opportunity to participate in this special program. The professors were incredible to work with. They listened to our project proposals, were very involved in making sure that their students completely understood each project and helped their students make a decision on which project to pursue. The program has provided an incredible opportunity for my department in finding solutions. We are looking forward to working with the students to implement identified solutions," Michelson said.



*Interns from the Department of Regional Planning
Amanda French and Roscoe Mata*

***"I would recommend C-BEEP to my peers.
The knowledge that I have gained through
this program and what I have learned in
class takes it to another dimension."***

Roscoe Mata



*Gladys Nagy, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer
of the Probation Department with intern,
Natalie Madriz*

*Please visit
<http://dhr.lacounty.info> and click
 on Internship Opportunities for
 additional information and a
 database of our current
 opportunities.*

With many students involved in C-BEEP, the program has racked up 10,400 hours in the Probation Department alone.

With the need for boosting the future career prospects of students, the program has been extended to include other colleges and universities in the County of Los Angeles, such as UCLA, USC, CSULA and CSULB among others.

Among the program's interns is Roscoe Mata, a graduating senior from UCLA majoring in sociology. He is currently an intern at the Department of Regional Planning. "I would recommend C-BEEP to my peers. The knowledge that I have gained through this program and what I have learned in class takes it to another dimension," Mata said.

If your department needs additional information on C-BEEP and/or would like to participate in the program, please contact the Department of Human Resources at (213) 639-6352 or by e-mail at interns@co.la.ca.us. You can also visit our Web site at <http://dhr.lacounty.info>.

C-BEEP, a partnership based on community service, continues to enrich the lives of students, the County of Los Angeles and the public we serve.

*Email any inquiries to
interns@co.la.ca.us*



County of Los Angeles VISION

Our ***purpose*** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our ***philosophy*** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our ***shared values***:

- **A can-do attitude** - we approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- **Accountability** - we accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- **Compassion** - we treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- **Commitment** - we always go the extra mile to achieve our mission.
- **Integrity** - we act consistent with our values.
- **Professionalism** - we perform to a high standard of excellence.
- **Respect for diversity** - we value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- **Responsiveness** - we take the action needed in a timely manner.

Our ***position*** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- a capability to undertake programs that have public value;
- an aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation; and a pledge to always work to earn the public trust.

Supervisor Antonovich Announces New County HazMat Unit Based in Antelope Valley

On July 7, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich announced a new hazardous materials (HazMat) unit –Hazardous Materials Task Force 130 – that will serve the Antelope Valley and the entire County, providing for quicker responses to chemical spills, industrial accidents and other dangerous situations.



Pictured from left to right are Acting Assistant Fire Chief Mark P. Bennett, Supervisor Antonovich, Acting Deputy Chief Steve Lindsey (North Operations Bureau), and Bishop Henry Hearn.

Based at Fire Station 129 in Lancaster, this nine-person task force consists of a four-member engine company housed with a five-member squad, supported by a fire engine and a hazardous materials truck. The unit responds to commercial and industrial incidents, and is trained to contain chemicals in solid, liquid or gas form, and to detect any spill, release or leak. HazMat 130 also handles major transportation incidents, which include road, rail, truck, and air, and also has a radiological capability and a response team for weapons of mass destruction.

Effective July 1, HazMat 130 is the fourth HazMat in the County of Los Angeles, where approximately one hazardous materials incident occurs each day. It is estimated that one-third of these episodes occur in the area of transportation and two-thirds during industrial production and handling.

Movement of over 11 million tons of hazardous materials occur each year and are transported on 900 miles of state highways, 18,500 miles of arterial and local streets, and 580 miles of railroads. Five major thoroughfares cut through the North County region: the Glendale Freeway/Angelen Crest Highway, Interstates 2 and 5, State Highway 14, and Highway 138. These figures indicate a major responsibility for the department, in addition to the ever-increasing hazardous material problem, which includes illegal or clandestine drug labs.

In 2004, the County's Hazardous Materials Task Forces and the Health HazMat division of the Fire Department responded to over 2000 incidents of consequence, the majority of which were related to corrosives, flammables, toxins or heavy metals.

Metro Introduces New Express Bus Service Between South Bay and Downtown Los Angeles

New Line to speed commuters between Artesia and Downtown L.A. in less than 30 minutes — half the time of driving alone

Beginning Monday, June 27, Metro started a pilot of a new express bus line that will speed rush hour commuters between the South Bay and downtown Los Angeles in less than 30 minutes, about half the time of driving alone. Metro Express Line 450X travels between Metro's Artesia Transit Center and downtown L.A.'s Financial District, including stops at the 7th/Metro Center Station, the connection point to the Metro Red and Blue Rail Lines.

The Artesia Transit Center is located at 731 W. 182nd St., just east of Vermont Ave. Newly outfitted blue Express buses will make a brisk 25-30 minute trip achievable through the use of high occupancy vehicle lanes on the Harbor/I-105 Transitway. The line will only make one mid-route stop at the Harbor Freeway station.

Two 40-foot, 40-passenger compressed natural gas buses will complete four round trips during the morning and afternoon rush hours. Northbound buses from the transit center will run at 6:25, 6:55, 7:25 and 7:55 a.m. Southbound buses from downtown's Flower & 5th Street will run at 4:08, 4:38, 5:08 and 5:38 p.m. Complete timetable information stops in both directions is available at www.metro.net.

The fare for all Metro Express Line 450X boarding points is \$2.25, which constitutes a \$1.25 regular fare plus \$1 for two freeway zones. The fare for seniors/disabled/Medicare recipients is just 95 cents. The express buses will run on a

BUS SERVICE

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experiencing problems with their computers. Sometimes the problems can be complicated and those having difficulty are very frustrated. When you find the answer, fix the problem and immediately see the person's frustration disappear, you feel good about yourself," she said.

When asked about her fondest memory of working with a fellow employee, Garcia says "It is hard to single out just one person. I think I'm so lucky to come to work every day at the APD. The lawyers, investigators, paralegals, and support staff really make my job a pleasure," she said.

Thought of as tireless in her efforts to insure that employees of the Department receive the finest level of support, Ms. Garcia's efforts are certainly well appreciated by the staff at APD. Alternate Public Defender Janice Fukai expressed great pride and was clearly overjoyed in having one of her own receive this high honor.

Ms. Garcia is a single mother devoted to raising her nine year old son Carlos. She is heavily involved in her son's sports and church activities and donates her time as a Team Mother for baseball, soccer and will be doing the same for football this fall.

For demonstrating a strong spirit of dedication and commitment to the County and those we serve, Bertha Garcia deserves the highest accolades and we wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky Attends World of Water Festival

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky welcomes a young visitor (*relaxing in the arms of Supervisor Yaroslavsky's Van Nuys Field Deputy Lori Wheeler*) to the "World of Water" Festival, an event showcasing live demonstrations of a range of aquatic products, and promoting activities and summertime community programs at El Cariso Park and its swimming pool. The public also participated in a Red Cross presentation called "The ABCs of a Safe Summer." The park is located at 13100 Hubbard Street in Sylmar. For further information, contact El Cariso Park at (818) 367-7050.



Supervisor Yaroslavsky Opens Victory Road Trailhead

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (*second from left*) joins other local officials on a sunny Saturday to cut the ribbon and officially open the new Victory Road trailhead into the former Ahmanson Ranch, now a unit of the California State Parks system. Joining Supervisor Yaroslavsky, *from the left*, are Joe Edmiston, Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; Supervisor Linda Park, Ventura County; Assemblymember Lloyd Levine; Mati Waiya, Chumash Indian; Rep. Brad Sherman; Assemblymember Fran Pavley; and Los Angeles City Councilmember Dennis Zine. For further information on other state parks in the Santa Monica Mountains area, please visit http://www.lamountains.com/parks_search.asp.





Safe Surrender in Whittier Marks 35th Baby Saved

On June 19, a newborn infant was safely turned over at a Fire Station in Whittier, all thanks to the Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The newborn female was dropped off at Fire Station 15 in Whittier on a Sunday morning and was approximately 18 hours old. The baby was transported to Whittier Presbyterian Hospital. “We are so pleased that we have now saved 35 precious lives over the duration of this program” said Supervisor Knabe, a prominent champion of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law.

Under Supervisor Knabe’s leadership, the County of Los Angeles has made great strides to get information on the 2001 state law out to the public. In 2002, following Knabe’s efforts, there were 10 safe surrenders. In 2003, there were eight more safe surrenders. In 2004, there were another 10 safe surrenders. This latest safe surrender in Whittier brings the number of safe surrenders in 2005 to seven.

“There is no shame. No blame. No names,” Supervisor Knabe said. “We just want the babies to be healthy and safe. I am so thankful that the infant in Whittier was safely turned over so we can go about finding her a loving home.”

Under the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, parents may surrender their newborn infants at hospitals or designated fire stations within the first 72 hours after birth without facing criminal prosecution so long as the infant has no signs of abuse. The Department of Children and Family Services takes custody of these infants and moves them into adoptive homes as quickly as possible.

For additional information about Los Angeles County’s Safely Surrendered Baby sites, please visit the Web site at www.babysafela.org. In addition, please call (877) BABY-SAFE, or (877) 725-5111 for more information or to locate the nearest safe surrender site to you. All safe surrender sites in the County of Los Angeles display a sign with the program’s logo, which shows a picture of an extended arm holding a baby.

BUS SERVICE

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trial basis for the next six months. Metro South Bay held public hearings in early August to determine if the line becomes a permanent express route.

Metro South Bay is one of five operating units in the County of Los Angeles created to better serve its customers at the local level. The sector is comprised of two divisions with approximately 1,300 professionally trained bus operators, mechanics, service attendants, supervisors and administrators. The Carson Division provides service for 27 bus lines in communities east to Whittier, west to the Los Angeles Airport, north to Altadena and south to Long Beach. The Arthur Winston Division in Chesterfield Square has 14 bus lines in neighborhoods east to Whittwood Center, west to Marina del Rey, north to Hollywood and south to Gardena.

For more information on Metro South Bay services, visit www.metro.net/southbay. For information and Metro timetables, visit the Web at www.metro.net or call 1-800-COMMUTE.

Secretaries! Are You Interested in Joining the Los Angeles County Secretarial Council?

The Los Angeles County Secretarial Council (LACSC) provides opportunities for an exchange of information, experiences, and views among County secretaries. By your membership and participation, the Secretarial Council is strengthened in its efforts to promote professionalism among its ranks.

Membership in LACSC affords opportunities to become a better secretary through educational, personal and professional development; develop initiative and acquire leadership abilities through involvement in various Council projects; and share mutual interests through idea exchanges with other secretaries.

Some of the highlights of LACSC are the annual boss-secretary luncheon, training workshops, annual all-day seminar, and special events.

LACSC training workshops are very informative and useful. A favorite was “Effective Stress Management” with trainer Cienna Rose William. Other trainings that have been conducted are Success By Design; Grammar I, II and III; Business

SECRETARIAL COUNCIL

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Supervisor Knabe Hosts Fishing Derby for Children

Bringing together the children of Los Angeles County, Supervisor Don Knabe hosted over 1,000 children at Cerritos Regional Park on Saturday, June 4, for a morning of free food, fishing and fun.

Along with the City of Cerritos and the Cerritos Rod and Gun Club, Supervisor Knabe provided an exciting opportunity for children, by filling the lake at the Cerritos Regional Park with 4,000 pounds of catfish on the evening prior to the event. "Since TV and video games are the reality for many of today's children, this Fishing Derby is a fantastic and fun way for kids to get back in touch with the outdoors, their peers and their families," Supervisor Knabe said.



The morning began with a free pancake breakfast at 7 a.m., followed by a three-hour period of fishing where volunteers from the State Fish and Game Program assisted the children. Fishing poles, bait, t-shirts and a cookbook with catfish recipes were provided for all the participating children. At the end of the morning, prizes were given to the children who caught the largest and heaviest fish. "This is a really fun event for me because I get to see children and their families, as well as

foster children and their families, come together for a morning of bonding, learning, and some good old fashioned fishing," Supervisor Knabe added.

In addition to the Cerritos Fishing Derby, Supervisor Knabe will also host the Knabe Katch, another fishing derby held at La Mirada Regional Park every September.

SECRETARIAL COUNCIL

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Writing; The Art of Healthy Communication; Organizing Your Office, Home and Life; Financial Planning; and The Exceptional Assistant, to name a few.

Special Events are always fun and consist of discount movies at the El Capitan Theater in Hollywood; Solvang and Winery day trip; Disney on Ice; Dodger games; Broadway musicals; Aquarium of the Pacific; Shop 'til you drop; Stateline turnaround; Pomona Fair; and either an annual picnic or holiday dinner dance. These are only a few of the events LACSC schedules for its members.

To become a member of LACSC, you must hold the payroll title of a classification within the secretarial series at the level of Secretary I or higher, including legal and medical secretaries, and persons on secretarial items in special departments. Dues are \$13 per year, payable from October 1 through December 31, each calendar year, and takes effect January of the following year.

To become an Associate Member of LACSC, you must perform the duties of a secretary without actually retaining the payroll title. Eligibility is based on verification by your supervisor of duties being performed. Dues are \$16 per year, payable from October 1 through December 31, each calendar year, and takes effect January of the following year.

Membership applications are accepted throughout the year with the additional payment of a \$5 late fee for renewing members, with late fee waived for new members. If you are interested in joining LACSC, please contact Mary Villegas, Membership Chair, Board of Supervisors, Fifth District, at (909) 394-2264. We look forward to hearing from you.

Share It

“L.A. County Day” at the Los Angeles County Fair Sunday, September 11



Wednesday - Sunday



Thummer and Daisy



Classic Cars



Millard Sheets Gallery

The Los Angeles County Fair is sponsoring a special celebration this year with the first “L.A. County Day” at the Fair, scheduled for Sunday, September 11.

Fair gates open at 10 a.m. and “L.A. County Day” will kick off at noon with a festive parade featuring County supervisors, department heads, employees and public service vehicles along with Fair floats, bands, mascots and classic cars. Following the parade, an afternoon horse race will be named in honor of the County. Other special events planned for the day include, a special County exhibit (themed “I Love L.A. County”) in the Fair’s Building 4 and a spectacular art display highlighting Latino artists of Los Angeles in the Millard Sheets Gallery.

County employees will receive special pricing on September 11. Regular weekend Fair admission is \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. However, with the exclusive “L.A. County Day” coupon distributed with the August 15 paychecks, employees will receive 2-for-1 pricing for adults and children (limit two free admissions per coupon). Additional coupons will be available from the County Public Affairs Office in Room 358 at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration (213-974-1363 for information). As always, children 5 and under get in FREE to the L.A. County Fair every day.

For more information on the fair, please visit www.lacountyfair.com. We look forward to seeing you September 11 at the Fair!



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Second District

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